

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-24 are in the case.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 1-8 and 17-24 are allowable.

The specification has been objected to based upon an informality. Paragraph 0030 has been amended as kindly suggested by the Examiner. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the objection to the specification should be withdrawn.

Claims 9-16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as claiming non-statutory subject matter. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants thank Examiner Bonzo for the courtesy of a telephone interview granted August 17, 2006. The rejection of claims 9-16 was discussed. Examiner Bonzo kindly suggested an amendment to paragraph 0060 of the specification and an amendment to the preamble of claims 9-16 which would overcome the §101 rejection without adding new matter.

Applicants submit that claims 9-16 as originally filed, and as supported by the specification as originally filed, are directed to statutory subject matter and that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101 should be withdrawn. However, in order to expedite the present application, claims 9-16 and paragraph 0060 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's kindly suggestions. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of claims 9-16 and the specification as originally filed in a continuation application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner provided various reasons for allowance. Applicants will not specifically address or respond herein to the issues/points raised by the Examiner in the Examiner's provided remarks. However, this should not necessarily be viewed as constituting acquiescence by Applicants as to the correctness of some or all of the Examiner's provided remarks.

Moreover, Applicants note that the claims are directed to various combinations of features. It is respectfully submitted that the patentability of each of the allowed and allowable claims resides in every feature of the recited combination of features of the claims in addition to the features noted by the Examiner.

Conclusion

For all the above reasons, Applicant submits that the pending claims 1-24 are patentable over the art of record. Applicants have not added any claims. Nonetheless, should any additional fees be required, please charge Deposit Account No. 09-0449.

The attorney of record invites the Examiner to contact him at (310) 553-7977 if the Examiner believes such contact would advance the prosecution of the case.

Dated: August 18, 2006

By: /William Konrad/

Registration No. 28,868

Please direct all correspondences to:

David W. Victor
Konrad Raynes & Victor, LLP
315 South Beverly Drive, Ste. 210
Beverly Hills, CA 90212
Tel: (310) 553-7977
Fax: 310-556-7984